WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data processing apparatus having connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, comprising:

obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image;

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus, which can perform output operation in the output form obtained by said obtain means, from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means; and

job assigning means for assigning an image output job to the image output apparatus selected by said selection means.

2. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said selection means selects an image output apparatus based on a content of the image output job in addition to the output form obtained by said obtain means.

3. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said selection means selects an image output apparatus based on the content of the image output job and a state of the image output job assigned to each of

the image output apparatuses, in addition to the output form obtained by said obtain means.

4. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said selection means comprises confirm means for confirming function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means, and selects an image output apparatus having function to perform output operation in the output form obtained by said obtain means.

5. The data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said confirm means confirms the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses by referring to a memory storing, in advance, data indicative of the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means.

6. The data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said confirm means confirms the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses by communicating with each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means.

7. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein in a case where the obtained output form designates to select an image output apparatus which completes execution of the image output job in a short time period, said selection means selects an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in the designated output form, based on the state of the image output job assigned to each of the image output apparatuses and the content of the image output job.

8. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising display means for displaying a message regarding an execution state of the image output job assigned to each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means.

9. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where the obtained output form designates to select an image output apparatus capable of color image output, said selection means confirms the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means and selects an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in the designated output form.

10. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where the obtained output form

designates to select a printer capable of both-sides printing, said selection means confirms the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means and selects a printer serving as an image output apparatus which can perform printing in the designated output form.

11. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where a size of an output image is designated by the output form, said selection means confirms the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means and selects an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in the designated output form.

12. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where there are plural image output apparatuses which can perform output operation in the output form obtained by said obtain means, said selection means selects one of the plural image output apparatuses based on priorities set in advance.

13. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where there are plural image output apparatuses which can perform output operation in the output form obtained by said obtain means, said

selection means allows an operator to select one of the plural image output apparatuses.

14. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where the output form obtained by said obtain means includes plural output forms, said selection means selects an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in all the output forms.

15. An image output system comprising the data processing apparatus disclosed in claim 1 and a plurality of image output apparatuses connected to the data processing apparatus by said connection means.

16. A data processing method for executing an image output job by selecting one of a plurality of image output apparatuses, comprising the steps of:

obtaining an output form of an image;

selecting an image output apparatus, which can perform output operation in the output form obtained in said obtaining step, from the plurality of selectable image output apparatuses; and

assigning the image output job to the image output apparatus selected in said selecting step.

17. The data processing method according to claim 16,

wherein in said selecting step, an image output apparatus is selected based on a content of the image output job in addition to the output form obtained in said obtaining step.

18. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in said selecting step, an image output apparatus is selected based on the content of the image output job and a state of the image output job assigned to each of the image output apparatuses, in addition to the output form obtained in said obtaining step.

19. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein said selecting step comprises a step of confirming function of each of the plurality of selectable image output apparatuses, and an image output apparatus having function to perform output operation in the output form obtained in said obtaining step is selected.

20. The data processing method according to claim 19, wherein in said confirming step, the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses is confirmed by referring to a memory storing, in advance, data indicative of the function of each of the selectable image output apparatuses.

21. The data processing method according to claim 19, wherein in said confirming step, the function of each of the plurality of image output apparatuses is confirmed by communicating with each of the selectable image output apparatuses.

22. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where the obtained output form designates to select an image output apparatus which completes execution of the image output job in a short time period, in said selecting step, an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in the designated output form is selected based on the state of the image output job assigned to each of the image output apparatuses and the content of the image output job.

23. The data processing method according to claim 16, further comprising a step of displaying a message regarding an execution state of the image output job assigned to each of the selectable image output apparatuses.

24. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where the obtained output form

designates to select an image output apparatus capable of color image output, in said selecting step, the function of each of the selectable image output apparatuses is confirmed, and an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in the designated output form is selected.

25. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where the obtained output form designates to select a printer capable of both-sides printing, in said selecting step, the function of each of the selectable image output apparatuses is confirmed and a printer serving as an image output apparatus which can perform printing in the designated output form is selected.

26. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where a size of an output image is designated by the output form, in said selecting step, the function of each of the selectable image output apparatuses is confirmed and an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in the designated output form is selected.

27. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where there are plural image output

apparatuses which can perform output operation in the output form obtained in said obtaining step, one of the plural image output apparatuses is selected in said selecting step based on priorities set in advance.

28. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where there are plural image output apparatuses which can perform output operation in the output form obtained in said obtaining step, one of the plural image output apparatuses is selected in said selecting step based on an instruction inputted by an operator.

29. The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein in a case where the output form obtained in said obtaining step includes plural output forms, an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in all the output forms is selected in said selecting step.

30. A data processing apparatus having connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, comprising:

obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image; and

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus which can perform output operation in the

output form obtained by said obtain means, from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means.

31. A data processing method for executing an image output job by selecting one of a plurality of image output apparatuses, comprising the steps of:

obtaining an output form of an image; and

selecting an image output apparatus, which can perform output operation in the output form obtained in said obtaining step, from the plurality of selectable image output apparatuses.

32. A memory medium storing program codes for controlling a data processing apparatus which includes connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, for causing the data processing apparatus to operate as an apparatus comprising:

obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image;

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus, which can perform output operation in the output form obtained by said obtain means, from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means; and

job assigning means for assigning an image output job to the image output apparatus selected by said selection means.

33. A program for controlling a data processing apparatus having connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, for causing the data processing apparatus to operate as an apparatus comprising:

obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image;

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus, which can perform output operation in the output form obtained by said obtain means, from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means; and

job assigning means for assigning an image output job to the image output apparatus selected by said selection means.

34. A memory medium storing program codes for controlling a data processing apparatus which includes connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, for causing the data processing apparatus to operate as an apparatus comprising:

obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image; and

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus, which can perform output operation in the output form obtained by said obtain means, from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means.

35. A program for controlling a data processing apparatus having connection means for being connected to a plurality of image output apparatuses, for causing the data processing apparatus to operate as an apparatus comprising:

obtain means for obtaining an output form of an image; and

selection means for selecting an image output apparatus, which can perform output operation in the output form obtained by said obtain means, from the plurality of image output apparatuses connected by said connection means.